ORIGINAL

COMMISSIONERS

GARY PIERCE

BOB BURNS

BRENDA BURNS

BOB STUMP- Chairman

SUSAN BITTER SMITH

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2014 RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR

RESET OF RENEWABLE ENERGY ADJUSTOR.



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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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CAP COMMISSION BOCKET CONTROL Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

AUG 2 5 2014

DOCKETED BY

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-13-0140

PROCEDURAL ORDER
(Sets Procedural Conference for Oral
Argument and Discussion of
Procedural Matters)

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 12, 2013, Arizona Public Service Company ("APS") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") its 2014 Renewable Energy Standard Implementation Plan.¹

Intervention in this matter has been granted to Arizona Solar Deployment Alliance ("ASDA"), Solar Energy Industries Association ("SEIA"), Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. ("Freeport-McMoRan"), Arizonans for Electric Choice and Competition ("AECC"), and Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association ("AriSEIA").

On April 15, 2014, APS filed its Application and Response to Commission Inquiry in Decision No. 74237. The April 15, 2014, application requests authorization for APS to proceed with the construction of a 20 MW utility-owned solar project to be located at APS's Redhawk Power Station as part of APS's AZ Sun program ("Redhawk Solar Project Application").

On July 28, 2014, APS filed its Supplemental Application (Utility-Owned DG). The July 28, 2014, application requests, as an alternative to its proposed Redhawk Solar Project, authority to implement its proposed AZ Sun DG Program as the final 20 MW of APS's AZ Sun Program ("AZ Sun DG Program Application"). Under the proposed AZ Sun DG Program, APS

¹ Decision No. 73922 extended the July 1, 2013 deadline.

. .

would install 20 MW of residential distributed generation ("DG") on the rooftops of approximately 3,000 APS customers. APS states that the DG systems would be installed on APS's side of the meter, and that APS would "rent" the 3,000 customer rooftops for a period of 20 years, by providing those customers with a \$30 monthly bill credit. APS requests that its proposed AZ Sun DG Program be authorized on an expedited basis, with a Commission order by September 2014, if possible.

On August 14, 2014, correspondence to APS from Commissioner Susan Bitter Smith relating to the proposed AZ Sun DG Program was filed in the docket.

On August 14, 2014, The Alliance for Solar Choice ("TASC") filed an Application to Intervene.

On August 15, 2014, TASC filed a Motion to Dismiss APS's Redhawk Solar Project Application and its AZ Sun DG Program Application ("Applications"). TASC requests that the Applications be dismissed with prejudice, and that the Commission instead address the need for new capacity in APS's 2015 REST Plan proceeding. TASC alleges that the Applications are inconsistent with Decision No. 74237 and should be dismissed as a collateral attack on a Commission Decision; that APS has not provided sufficient information in the Applications to inform a determination what budget and funding level modifications to Decision No. 74237 would be necessary; and that the AZ Sun DG Program proposal raises significant public policy and legal questions that cannot be addressed in the requested timeframe.

On August 15, 2014, AriSEIA filed a Motion to Dismiss APS's AZ Sun DG Program Application. AriSEIA alleges that the AZ Sun DG Program Application is procedurally deficient, lacks evidentiary support, is a bad idea with unknown costs, and "strongly favors the regulated utility in a market that is already well served by a competitive free market."

On August 20, 2014, the Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") filed an Application to Intervene.

On August 20, 2014, SEIA filed a Response to APS's AZ Sun DG Program Application, urging that the Commission either conduct workshops on the AZ Sun DG Program Application or consider it in APS's 2015 REST Plan.

On August 20, 2014, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") filed a Request for Procedural Conference. Staff states that it continues to process and prepare a Staff Report that addresses the merits of the AZ Sun DG Program Application, but does not intend to address in the Staff Report the issues raised in the Motions to Dismiss. Staff states that it is not requesting an evidentiary hearing, but requests that the Hearing Division prepare a Recommended Opinion and Order ("ROO") in this matter "to address the motions to dismiss and the merits of the case."

On August 21, 2014, RUCO filed its Response to the TASC and AriSEIA Motions to Dismiss. RUCO recommends either dismissal of the Applications without prejudice or the establishment of a hearing process which includes the filing of testimony and a hearing.

On August 22, 2014, Tucson Electric Power Company ("TEP") filed a Motion to Intervene.

There has been no objection filed to TASC's or RUCO's Applications to Intervene. TASC and RUCO should therefore be granted intervention.

Staff's request for a procedural conference is reasonable. A schedule should be set for APS to file responses to the Motions to Dismiss, and a procedural conference should be scheduled for the purpose of taking oral argument on the Motions to Dismiss. In order to allow time for any objections to be filed to TEP's Motion to Intervene, it should be addressed at the procedural conference. The parties should also be prepared to address, at the procedural conference, Staff's request for a ROO and any other procedural matters related to the processing of this docket.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that The Alliance for Solar Choice and the Residential Utility Consumer Office are hereby granted intervention.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Arizona Public Service Company shall file, by September 3, 2014, responses to the Motions to Dismiss filed by Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association and The Alliance for Solar Choice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a **procedural conference** in the above-captioned matter is hereby scheduled to commence on **September 5, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.,** or as soon thereafter as practicable, at the Commission's offices, 1200 West Washington Street, **Hearing Room 1**, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, for the purpose of taking oral argument on the Motions to Dismiss filed by Arizona

Solar Energy Industries Association and The Alliance for Solar Choice; for the purpose of discussing Staff's request for a Recommended Opinion and Order; and for the purpose of discussing any other procedural matters related to the processing of this docket.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that withdrawal of representation must be made in compliance with A.A.C. R14-3-104(E) and Rule 1.16 of the Rules of Professional Conduct (under Arizona Supreme Court Rule 42). Representation before the Commission includes the obligation to appear at all hearings and procedural conferences, as well as all Open Meetings for which the matter is scheduled for discussion, unless the representative has previously been granted permission to withdraw by the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Officer may rescind, alter, amend, or waive any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing.

DATED this day of August, 2014.

> TEENA **ADMINI** STRATIVE LAW JUDGE

> > Court S. Rich

Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered this as day of August, 2014 to:

Thomas A. Loquvam Melissa M. Kreuger

PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION

400 N. 5th Street, MS 8695 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Attorneys for Arizona Public Service Company

Garry D. Hays

LAW OFFICES OF GARRY D. HAYS, PC 1702 E. Highland Avenue, Suite 204

Phoenix, AZ 85016

Attorney for Arizona Solar Deployment

Alliance

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ARIZONA SÓLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION 2221 W. Lone Cactus Drive, Suite 2 Phoenix, AZ 85027

FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C.

ROSE LAW GROUP, PC

Scottsdale, AZ 85250

C. Webb Crockett

Phoenix, AZ 85012

Patrick J. Black

6613 North Scottsdale Road, Suite 200

Attorneys for Solar Energy Industries

2394 East Camelback Road, Suite 600

Association and The Alliance for Solar Choice

Mark Holohan, Chairman

Attorneys for Freeport-McMoRan and AECC

1	Daniel W. Pozefsky Chief Counsel
2	RUCO 1110 W. Washington Street
3	Phoenix, AZ 85007
4	Janice Alward, Chief Counsel Legal Division
5	ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1200 W. Washington Street
6	Phoenix, AZ 85007
7	Steven M. Olea, Director Utilities Division
8	ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1200 W. Washington Street
9	Phoenix, AZ 85007
10	COASH & COASH, INC. Court Reporting, Video & Videoconferencing 1802 North 7 th Street
11	Phoenix, AZ 85006
12	- 10 1
13	By: Tammy Vellarde
14	Assistant to Teena Jibilian
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